DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 261 841 RC 015 482

AUTHOR Long, Patrick T.; Kraus, Barbara E.
TITLE Colorado Rural Recreation Directors Project: An Overview.
PUB DATE 20 Jun 85
NOTE 12p.; Paper presented at the Colorado Rural Recreation Directors Project--Youth Recreation Training Conference (Boulder, CO, June 10-14, 1984). Appendix contains small print.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Speeches/Conference Papers (150)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS College Students; *Cooperative Programs; Delivery Systems; Field Experience Programs; Job Skills; On the Job Training; *Outreach Programs; Program Descriptions; *Recreational Programs; Recreation Finances; *Rural Areas; Rural Youth; *School Community Relationship; Summer Programs; Youth Leaders
IDENTIFIERS *Colorado; Job Training Partnership Act 1982; *University of Colorado Boulder

ABSTRACT

To meet the growing demand for recreation services in rural communities, the Colorado Rural Recreation Director's Project (CRRDP) works as a partnership between the University of Colorado in Boulder and rural Colorado communities. During the summer months, each participating community (52 since the project's beginning in 1981) receives the services of a full time recreation director (University recreation major), who organizes a summer program and coordinates local resources. Two community youth, eligible for the Job Training Partnership Act, are employed as full time summer recreation leaders. This staff plans and implements recreation activities for all age and interest groups and assists in establishing support for long range recreation development. The CRRDP has two training components. Recreation leaders receive training in service development in rural communities, supervision of youth recreation leaders, and resources available through the Project. Youth leaders receive training in four areas: pre-employment, work maturity, job-related basic/academic skills, and job specific skills for conducting recreation programs. Community support for the CRRDP includes sponsorship by an appropriate governing body, liability coverage, housing for the recreation director, adequate office facilities, a minimum of $300 for program expenses, and approval to conduct research regarding the benefits of recreation development in rural communities. A copy of the training agenda for youth recreation leaders is appended. (JHZ)

**********
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
**********

ED261841

AUG 1985
RECEIVED
ERIC/CRESS

# COLORADO RURAL RECREATION DIRECTORS PROJECT

Recreation Degree Program

University of Colorado-Boulder

## AN OVERVIEW

Patrick T. Long, Project Director

Barbara E. Kraus, Project Coordinator

6/[illegible]/85

Center for Rural Recreation
Research & Development
Campus Box 354
University of Colorado
Boulder, CO. 80309
303-492-5395

RC015482

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Patrick T. Long

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☑ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official NIE position or policy.

## INTRODUCTION

Since 1981 the faculty of the Recreation Degree Program at the University of Colorado in Boulder have assisted rural Colorado communities in meeting their recreation needs through the Colorado Rural Recreation Directors' Project (CRRDP). The CRRDP represents a partnership of corporate, local, state, and federal financial sponsorship which supports technical assistance, on-site leadership, training, education, and research. Each year a select number of communities are identified that participate in the CRRDP. Since its beginning, 52 Colorado communities have formally participated.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The CRRDP, developed in response to a growing demand for recreation services in rural communities, represents a model of cooperation between the University and the Colorado community at large. Each rural community is unique in its resources and its capabilities. The staff of the CRRDP works closely with community representatives to assess recreation needs and to determine the best possible approach to addressing those needs.

Each participating community receives the services of a full time recreation director (University recreation major), who organizes a summer program and coordinates local resources in the community. In addition, two youth from the community are employed as recreation leaders on a full time basis. This local recreation staff plans and implements recreation activities for all age and interest groups and assists in establishing a support system for long range recreation development. Touring recreation specialists provide clinics and demonstrations which are intended to expand upon a community's recreation offerings.

## PROJECT GOALS

The CRRDP has five goals, all of which are specific to furthering the partnership of the local community and the University. These goals are:

1. To provide assistance to rural Colorado communities in meeting immediate recreation needs and in long term recreation development;

2. To provide an educational experience to University students pursuing a degree in recreation management;

3. To provide significant work experience and career development assistence to community youth eligible for the Job Training Partnership Act;

4. To identify the most effective methods to implement recreation services in rural communities;

5. To measure the impact of recreation services on the overall satisfaction of rural community life.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Besides the direct partnership with individual communities and their residents, the University has now joined with ten other funding agencies in support of the Rural Recreation Project. These agencies include:

--Office of Rural Job Training
--Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
--Northwest Colorado Council of Governments
--Virginia Neal Blue Resource Center Inc.
--The Resource Center
--Center for Community Development and Design
--Mountain Bell of Colorado
--Colorado Council on the Arts and Humanities
--Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation, Colorado Tennis Association, the United States Professional Tennis Association, and Rossignol

## PROJECT SERVICES

Each participating community receives the following services:

1. A full time recreation director (University recreation major or recent recreation graduate) for the summer months. This person is selected by the CRRDP staff and matched with the local community. The director is placed in the community setting but spends the first and third weeks of the Project participating in special training and the 13th week participating in a Project evaluation session;

2. Two full-time youth recreation leader positions to be filled by local youth who are eligible for the Job Training Partnership Act employment program. These youth are hired and supervised by the recreation director and work a maximum of 400 hours for the summer. The youth attend a special recreation leader training program (at Project expense) conducted on the University of Colorado campus in Boulder during the third week of the Project;

3. Select recreation specialists who offer clinics and workshops in the participating community's. These recreation specialists have included a USPTA certified tennis professional, Colorado Womans Frisbee champion, visual and performing artists, fitness specialists, and a certified New Games Leader;

4. Technical assistence from members of the CRRDP staff and access to all available information specific to recreation development in rural communities;

5. A planning visit by the prospective recreation director to the assigned community to become familiar with the community and to establish preliminary contacts.

## COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

Each participating community is expected to provide the following:

1. Local sponsorship of the CRRDP through appropriate formal action of the sponsoring governing body;

2. General liability coverage of an amount normal to the existing coverage for other governing body services which provides liability protection for any and all volunteer and paid recreation staff to include the youth recreation leaders and the recreation director;

3. Acceptable housing for the recreation director or a housing stipend in an amount sufficient to secure acceptable housing within the community;

4. Adequate office facilities for the recreation director and the youth recreation leaders with telephone access and a limited long distance budget;

5. A minimum of $300 to initiate recreation services and to cover miscellaneous program expenses;

6. Approval to conduct a needs assessment, follow up surveys, and/or research specific to the benefits of recreation development in rural communities (such efforts are presented for review prior to their implementation).

## TRAINING

There are two training components to the CRRDP. The recreation directors selected for the Project attend a four day training session directed specifically at living and working in a rural community. This training supplements the formal degree program in recreation and focuses on service development in rural communities, supervision of youth recreation leaders, and resources available through the Project.

The purpose of the second workshop is to allow the youth recreation leaders the opportunity to develop an understanding of recreation and the role it plays in the community. Each participant becomes certified in standard first aid, learns to plan and implement different activities and programs, develops

personal leadership skills, becomes familiar with age group characteristics and recreation needs, participates in communication and decision-making exercises, and develops skills in specific recreation activities.

## CONCLUSION

The services provided in each community vary with the recreation needs and the level of recreation awareness and program development in each individual town. The recreation director placed in each community offers programs and services by acting as a program facilitator to coordinate local human, financial, and physical resources. Low-cost, life-long activities are the focus of local programming, and the needs of each age group, from preschoolers to senior citizens are addressed.

The characteristics which make each rural town unique are recognized and accounted for in the flexible approach of the Project. Through local involvement and support the residents of each community actively participate in the decisions necessary to successfully implement a community-wide recreation system.

COLORADO RURAL RECREATION DIRECTORS PROJECT

## YOUTH RECREATION LEADER COMPETENCIES

Each JTPA eligible youth participating in the CRRDP is expected to develop his or her skills in four competency areas. Training and experience are provided for the youth in each of the four competency areas with regular opportunity for feedback. The four areas and select examples of each follows:

### Pre-Employment Skills

---Opportunity is provided to view a video entitled "The Job Game" specifically prepared for youth entering the job market.

---A recreation leader job application specific to job expectations is completed by each youth.

---Applicant is required to personally interview for the recreation leader position.

---During training, experience is gained in developing a resume and a qualifying letter.

### Work Maturity Skills

---Weekly work evaluation interview is conducted between the youth recreation leader and the recreation director (work-site supervisor).

---Evaluation documentation is prepared by the supervisor for the youth recreation leaders file following the evaluation interview.

---Personal statements by the youth recreation leader concerning growth and change resulting from the summer work experience are compiled at the end of the summer.

### Basic/Academic Skills

---Certification is received in Basic First Aid.

---Organizational skills are developed in program planning and program implementation.

---Writing skills are developed by preparing news releases and public information documents.

---Personal leadership skills are developed through actually leading activities and programs.

Job Specific Skills (determined by age, maturity, and community) Each youth may be provided the opportunity to:

---Assess participant needs in recreation.

---Develop goals and objectives for recreation programs.

---Design recreation programs.

---Conduct recreation programs.

---Conduct program evaluation.

---Respond to patron or participant complaints.

---Prepare budget for recreation programs.

---Develop schedule for recreation activities.

---Participate in staff meetings.

---Organize special events.

---Use marketing techniques to "sell" programs.

---Determine actual fees and charges.

---Maintain records of expenses.

---Interpret agency purpose to public at large.

---Inspect recreation areas for safety.

## BENEFITS TO THE YOUTH RECREATION LEADERS

The major benefits of the youth recreation leader experience include 1). personal growth and maturity through the opportunity to assume significant responsibility for a visible community program; 2). the development and reinforcement of positive work traits applicable to any work environment; 3). the acquisition of specific skills in the planning and implementation of recreation programs and activities; and 4); a sense of job and career that aid in giving direction to future vocational and education planning.

In assessing the impact of the Rural Recreation Project experience on the youth recreation leaders, it was determined by the recreation directors (work-site supervisors) that: 1). this was a tremendous opportunity for young people in a community because of the varied set of responsibilities available to them; 2). the vast majority of youth respond to the challenges presented; 3). the content and format of the JTPA youth recreation leader training is appropriate and correct; and 4). the responsibilities, the experiences, and the outcomes for the JTPA youth involved in the Rural Recreation Project seem unusually well-suited to the aims and objectives of the JTPA youth program.

## JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

## SUMMER YOUTH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

MUST BE: UNITED STATES CITIZEN, UNITED STATES NATIONAL, or REGISTERED ALIEN, AND A RESIDENT OF THE SERVICE DELIVERY AREA.

IN ADDITION, A YOUTH MUST BE:

1). BETWEEN 16 and 21 YEARS OLD INCLUSIVE

2). ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED:

---RECEIVES OR IS A MEMBER OF A FAMILY WHICH RECEIVES CASH WELFARE PAYMENTS UNDER A FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL WELFARE PROGRAM;

OR ---HAS, OR IS A MEMBER OF A FAMILY WHICH HAS RECEIVED A TOTAL FAMILY INCOME FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD PRIOR TO APPLICATION FOR THE PROGRAM WHICH IN RELATION TO FAMILY SIZE WAS NOT IN EXCESS OF THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS;

| FAMILY SIZE | MAXIMUM INCOME |
|---|---|
| 1 | $2,430 |
| 2 | $3,390 |
| 3 | $4,650 |
| 4 | $5,745 |
| 5 | $6,775 |
| 6 | $7,925 |
| EACH ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUAL ADD | $1,150 |

OR ---IS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS;

OR ---IS A FOSTER CHILD ON BEHALF OF WHOM STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS ARE MADE;

OR ---IS A HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUAL.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER
Department of Physical Education and Recreation

COLORADO RURAL RECREATION DIRECTORS PROJECT
YOUTH RECREATION LEADERS
TRAINING AGENDA
June 10-14, 1984

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

| | |
|---|---|
| 4:00 a.m. | Arrival and check-in at Nichols Hall. |
| 4:30 p.m. | Orientation meeting for Recreation Directors, Nichols Hall Lounge. |
| 5:00 p.m. | Dinner at Nichols Hall. |
| 6:30 p.m. | Welcome and Overview of Training Agenda: Patrick Long, Project Director and Barbara Kraus, Project Coordinator. Clare Small Gymnasium. |
| 7:00 p.m. | Video: Colorado Rural Recreation Directors Project. |
| 7:30 p.m. | Introductions: Jill McIntosh, Recreation Director, Hayden and Robin Nelson, Recreation Director, Westcliffe. |
| 8:30 p.m. | Video: The Job Game. |
| 9:00 p.m. | Employee Responsibilities--Expectations of the Office of Rural Job Training: Ken Strychalski, Program Director, Northwest Colorado Council of Governments. |
| 9:30 p.m. | Goal Setting--Personal and Project Expectations: Barb Kraus and Pat Long. |
| | Eleven O'Clock is the Magic Bewitching Hour for all Training Participants. |

MONDAY, JUNE 11

| | |
|---|---|
| 7:00 a.m. | Breakfast at Nichols Hall. |
| 8:30 a.m. | Group A: Recreation and Leisure--What is it? Nancie Brabec, Recreation Director, Basalt, and Chip Pew, Recreation Director, Debeque. Room 158, UMC. |
| | Group B: Exploring Attitudes and Values, Barb Kraus. Room 159, UMC. |
| 9:30 a.m. | First Aid Certification: Ruthanne Robinette, Certified Trainer and past Project Recreation Director, and Leslie Travis, Recreation Director, Collbran. Room 157, UMC. |
| 12:00 p.m. | Lunch at Nichols Hall. |

Campus Box 354 • Boulder, Colorado 80309 U.S.A. • (303) 492 7333



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1:00 p.m. Frisbee and Hacky-Sack Clinic: Leslie Scott, Colorado Womens State Champion. Farrand Field.

3:00 p.m. Group A: Program Planning for Recreation Services, Barbara Kraus. Room 159, UMC.

Group B: Recreation and Leisure--What is it? Nancie Brabec, and Chip Pew.
Communication, Sandy Miller, Recreation Director, Delta, and Liz Green, Recreation Director, Ouray. Room 158, UMC.

5:00 p.m. Dinner at Nichols Hall.

6:30 p.m. Group A: First Aid Certification, Ruthanne Robinette and Leslie Travis. Room 158, UMC.

Group B: Cardiovascular Health and Fitness, Zung Vu Tran, Exercise Specialist, University of Colorado, Boulder. Room 159, UMC.

8:00 p.m. Small Group Options.

11:00 p.m. The Bewitching Hour.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

7:00 a.m. Breakfast at Nichols Hall.

8:30 a.m. Group A: Exploring Attitudes and Values, Barb Kraus. Room 159, UMC.

Group B: Cooperation and Teamwork, Julie Scofield, Recreation Director,-Granby, and Joe Behm, Recreation Director, Kremmling. Room 158, UMC.

9:30 a.m. First Aid Certification: Ruthanne Robinette and Leslie Travis. Room 157, UMC.

12:00 p.m. Lunch at Nichols Hall.

1:00 p.m. New Games Training: Ruthanne Robinette, Certified New Games Referee and Trainer. Farrand Field.

3:00 p.m. Group A: Communication, Sandy Miller and Liz Green.
Services for Special Populations, Joe Sullivan, Recreation Director, Parachute, and Jim Rhein, Recreation Director, Ridgeway.
Room 158, UMC.

Group B: Program Planning for Recreation Services, Barb Kraus. Room 159, UMC.

5:00 p.m. Dinner at Nichols Hall.

6:30 p.m. Group A: Cardiovascular Health and Fitness: Zung Vu Tran, Exercise Specialist, University of Colorado, Boulder. Room 159, UMC.

Group B: First Aid Certification: Ruthanne Robinette and Leslie Travis. Room 157, UMC.



8:00 p.m. Small Group Options.

11:00 p.m. Bewitching Hour.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

7:00 a.m. Breakfast at Nichols Hall.

8:30 a.m. First Aid Certification: Ruthanne Robinette and Leslie Travis. Room 157, UMC.

11:00 a.m. Group A: Cooperation and Teamwork, Julie Scofield and Joe Behm. Room 158, UMC.

Group B: Services for Special Populations, Jo Sullivan and Jim Rhein. Room 159, UMC.

12:00 p.m. Lunch at Nichols Hall.

1:30 p.m. Group A: Leadership, Ken Silverberg, Recreation Director, Julesburg, and Terri DuBeau, Recreation Director, Salida. Room 422, UMC.

Group B: Planning Tournaments, Jeff Colvin, Recreation Director, Walden, and Connie Bender, Recreation Director, Norwood. Room 425, UMC.

2:30 p.m. Group A: Planning Tournaments, Jeff Colvin, Recreation Director, Walden, and Connie Bender, Recreation Director, Norwood. Room 425, UMC.

Group B: Leadership, Ken Silverberg, Recreation Director, Julesburg, and Terri DuBeau, Recreation Director, Salida. Room 422, UMC.

3:30 p.m. "Being a Warrior" Don Nielsen, Three time United States Olympic Biathlon Competitor and Columnist for the Denver Post. Room 104, Clare Small Gymnasium.

5:00 p.m. Dinner at Nichols Hall.

6:30 p.m. Volleyball Tournament.

11:00 p.m. Lights Out!

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

7:00 a.m. Breakfast at Nichols Hall.

9:00 a.m. Closing Session: Marty Hirmer, Recreation Director, Buena Vista, and Lori Graff, Recreation Director, Florence. Farrand Field.



BEST COPY AVAILABLE